IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

ANDREA C. DOMINGUEZ,

Plaintiff,

Civ. No. 21-00380 SMV VS.

KILOLO KIJAKAZI,1 **Acting Commissioner of the Social Security** Administration,

Defendant.

ORDER GRANTING UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

The Court, having reviewed the parties' Unopposed Motion for Attorney Fees Pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412 (Doc. 35), HEREBY ORDERS that attorney fees be, and hereby are, awarded under the EAJA, payable to Plaintiff but mailed to Plaintiff's attorney in the amount of \$8,500.00 in attorney fees. See Astrue v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. 586 (2010) (EAJA fees are paid to the prevailing party, not the attorney).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT, if Plaintiff's counsel receives attorney fees under both the EAJA and 42 U.S.C. § 406(b) of the Social Security Act, Plaintiff's counsel shall refund the smaller award to Plaintiff pursuant to Weakley v. Bowen, 803 F.2d 575, 580 (10th Cir. 1986).

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE STEPHAN M. VIDMAR

¹ Kilolo Kijakazi was appointed Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration on July 9, 2021.

SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY:

Filed Electronically 10/31/2022

Laura J. Johnson Attorney for Plaintiff Armstrong Johnson Law, LLC

Electronically Approved 10/31/2022

Jessica Milano
Special Assistant U.S. Attorney
Office of Program Litigation – 6
Social Security Administration